



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

White Mountain Apache Tribe Regional Partnership Council

Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2009

DRAFT

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Shine Burnette, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:23 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2009, at the Indian Pines Restaurant, 777 Highway 260, Pinetop, AZ 85935. Chair Burnette asked everyone to introduce themselves.
Members Present: Shine Burnette, Laurel Endfield, Velma Kaytoggy, Kirk Massey, Jr., Dr. Tim Strand, Deborah Clendon (via phone)
Members excused: Mary Kline, Harrisen DeClay, Faye Smith, Erwin Thompson
Member unexcused: Dennie Parker-Cromwell
Other Attendees: Kathy Lacapa, Eileen Pike, Maureen Theobald
2. **Call to the Public: (Moved until after the discussion and approval of funding allocations.)**
Kathy Lacapa expressed discouragement in applying for a grant given reduced funding.
3. **Discussion of State Discretionary Funds and the Regional Funding Plan:** Coordinator Rochelle Lacapa made a general review of the State's budget cuts and expressed the First Things First State Board's concern that these cuts will cause erosion to the infrastructure of services to children birth to age five. Because of this, the Board determined they would utilize discretionary funds to make an amount of \$30 million available via a threefold approach:
 - a. Stabilization of the child care Industry (i.e., if a DES subsidy was cut, discretionary funding could be utilized)
 - b. Assistance to rural areas because of their higher costs due to fewer services being available (Federal guidelines establish the "frontier" communities; since this is in a frontier community, this Council will receive \$80,000 in additional funding.)
 - c. Food Insecurity (\$500,000, statewide, has been allocated for food boxes (i.e., a food center may apply to FTF for an extra two boxes in a four-month period for families with children birth to age five.)

Coordinator Lacapa explained that the additional \$80,000 could be added to a current strategy or the Council could implement a new strategy specific to the Region's particular economic issues. She also stated that \$20,000 for the cost of the Needs & Assets Report will now come from administrative costs, which means the \$15,000 initially slated will now become available. The State Board will also allow the Council members to decide if their currently committed strategy funds should be reallocated; in addition, they may wish to utilize their Carry Forward funds. Coordinator Lacapa reminded the Council members that since this is a Tribal region, which requires review and approval of the data collection by the Tribal Council, these funds will not be available any sooner. She does plan to attend the Health Board Meeting on March 30, 2009 and will send them packets of material this week along with a letter so that this step of the process can get completed. Awards cannot be made until the Tribe gives their approval. Member Clendon offered to provide food for the Health Board's meeting.

4. **Discussion and Possible Approval of Participation in Statewide Discretionary Funded Strategies:** Member Endfield moved to allow participation by the region in statewide discretionary funded strategies. Dr. Strand seconded the motion; the motion passed 6:0:0.
5. **Discussion and Possible Adoption of Regional Funding Plan Re-Allocations:** Chair Burnette reviewed the two Family Support strategies that could potentially be impacted by reallocating funds. Chair Burnette allowed the two community members to provide comments and feedback prior to taking a vote on the potential reallocation of funds. It was noted that a total of \$126,538 (\$81,588 Frontier funds, \$29,950 Carry Forward funds and \$15,000 Needs & Assets funds) could be used without taking money from other strategies.

(Chair Burnette called for a break at 1:59 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 2:11 p.m.)

Coordinator Lacapa reviewed the current funding per strategy as well as the potential interest in the Request For Grant Applications(RFGAs), gave an overview of the demographics of the area. The Council then made the following motions:

- a. **Reallocation of Family Support and/or Access and Affordability Strategies:** Member Strand motioned to transfer \$29,000 from the Language and Literacy Development strategy over to the Emergency Support funds for FY 2010, lessening the Language and Literacy strategy to \$100,000; Member Endfield seconded the motion; Motion passed 6:0:0.
- b. **Reallocation of Needs & Assets Funds:** Member Endfield moved to reallocate \$15,000 from the Needs and Assets funds for FY 2010 to the Emergency Support funds; Member Strand seconded the motion; Motion passed 6:0:0.
- c. **Reallocation of Carry Forward Funds:** Member Massey, moved to reallocate the \$29,950 from the Carry Forward funds for FY 2010 to the Emergency Support funds. Member Clendon seconded the motion; Motion passed 6:0:0.
- d. **Allocation of Frontier Adjustment Funds:** Member Endfield moved to have the Frontier Adjustment fund (\$81, 588) moved to the Emergency Support fund. Member Massey seconded the motion; Motion passed 6:0:0.

- e. **Bid-Waiver:** Member Massey, moved to bypass the RFGA process to pursue a bid waiver for the Emergency Support funds; Member Strand seconded the motion; Motion passed 6:0:0.

Coordinator Lacapa will develop multiple strategies to address the emergency needs and will present these at the next Regional Partnership Council meeting.

- 6. **Items for the Good of the Order:** Request For Grant Applications will be released on March 4, 2009. The next Regional Partnership Council meeting will be March 19, 2009, followed by a potluck luncheon with the Tribal Council. The Award Presentation will then follow the luncheon.
- 7. **Adjourn:** Having no further business, Chair Burnette adjourned the meeting at 2:49 p.m.

Approved:

Althea "Shine" Burnette, Chair

Rochelle Lacapa, Coordinator